



WEST VIRGINIA CHAPTER NEWS

winter '85

chairman's report

BY Virginia Baer

The box below provides the summary. In 1984 we exceeded all of our protection goals! Indeed the Conservancy's West Virginia program is in a state of fine health and excellent growth.

Thanks to the breathing room provided by the three-year challenge grant (ending in 1985) from the Claude Worthington Benedum Foundation, our Field Office has been able to establish a more secure financial base of operations in the state. This benefits not only the financial security of that office but our project activity as well since more time can be put into the saving of land.

The Chapter's 1985 Board of Trustees has greater regional representation in the state and reflects a greater diversity of backgrounds than ever before. Your new chairman is most appreciative of their multiple talents.

The West Virginia Natural Areas Campaign is now halfway completed in time and in accomplishments. Before current opportunities are lost, acquisition of tracts to improve existing preserves as well as the purchase of additional new preserves depend on your acting now.

You should know that all Memorial Funds accrued to date have been added to the Natural Areas Campaign account. In future months, tangible evidence of their use will be forthcoming.

To end these comments on a personal note, your 1985-86 Chairman wishes to acknowledge the way paved by her predecessor. In the past two short years we have made changes in our Chapter Board structure which have resulted in it becoming more effective and a true partner to the Field Office. It was not done easily, but with our now Immediate Past Chairman's finesse and good will, it was done without turmoil. Thank you Bob Snyder.

And now, on to a great year in 1985!

1984 PROTECTION PROJECTS (details on page 3)

- ACQUIRED - Panther Knob - Pendleton County - 380 acres
- Brush Creek - Mercer County - 123 acres
- Seldom Seen (an assemblage of 3 different projects)
- Morgan/Hampshire Counties - 90 acres
- Monongahela (McClung) - Webster County - 920 acres
- Harpers Ferry (Nash) - Jefferson County - 1 acre
- REGISTERED - Mack Farm - Summers County - 30 acres
- Ours Farm - Grant County - 15 acres
- Purgittsville Shale Barren - Hampshire County - 1 acre
- Brushy Fork Dwarf Juniper - Pendleton County - 3 acres
- Petersburg Gap - Grant County - 30 acres
- Petersburg Sandstone Glade - 2 acres

ACRES PROTECTED DURING 1984 - 1595; ESTIMATED FAIR MARKET VALUE \$1,296,850

1984 — it was a very good year

Without question, 1984 was the most successful and productive year in the 21-year history of our Chapter. By presenting the following review of our 1984 operating plan, it is easy to demonstrate the substantial progress that we made during the year in all program areas:

IDENTIFICATION - The West Virginia Natural Diversity Scorecard, a prioritized listing of the rare species and natural communities which occur in the state, was considerably refined and expanded during the year (see article on page 6). The Heritage/Wildlife Data Base unit of the Department of Natural Resources, with whom we work closely in the identification of potential projects, was awarded 2 grants from the Conservancy's national office which will allow for the installation of an in-house computer and provide partial funding for a new botanist position.

PROTECTION - our goal of 5 formal projects was exceeded (see page 3). In addition, six sites were protected through the Conservancy's Registry program. The total of 14 sites protected is a new record for us. Remember, just a couple of years ago we were doing good to protect 2-3 sites per year.

STEWARDSHIP - Obviously a highlight in stewardship was the installation of the initial 350 feet of boardwalk at our Cranesville Swamp preserve in Preston County. In addition, stewardship committees were established for the Wardensville and Back Creek preserves, annual work days were held at most preserves, and new updated management plans were developed for all preserves.

DEVELOPMENT - our special ACORN membership category, in which members pay \$100 in special annual dues which are used exclusively to help finance our Field Office, has grown to 51 members - including 10 businesses (see page 5). Thanks in part to the response from our Annual Appeal to the membership, our Field Office was able to finish the year in the black (just barely). And fundraising for the WV Natural Areas Campaign is going quite well. Through the end of the year, \$127096 in donations and pledges have been received for the campaign.

While these accomplishments are impressive, especially when compared to what we were doing in West Virginia just a few years ago, our 1985 Operating Plan requires that we meet and exceed most of these goals. This presents a real challenge for us and your continued support and participation as members in the Chapter will be critical for our success.

1985 field trip program

The Chapter's Field Trip Committee has put together another diverse and interesting program of field trips for 1985. Details will be provided in a separate flyer which you all will receive. However, mark your calendars now for the first trip of the year. On Saturday, April 20 we will visit Pond Run Marsh which is actually located within the city limits of Parkersburg. We'll meet at 9:30 AM at the rear of the parking lot for the Big Bear shopping center adjacent to the Memorial Bridge. Plan to wear boots. Hopefully we'll see some interesting plants and lots of birds (bring your field glasses). For details call the Field Office, 345-4350. The trip is open to anyone. Join us!

1984 protection projects

PANTHER KNOB - As one of the showcase acquisitions of our 1984-85 Natural Areas Campaign, Panther Knob has been mentioned often in recent newsletters. A color photo of this spectacular 4600' mountaintop in Pendleton County appeared on page 22 of the Nov/Dec 1984 issue of *The Nature Conservancy News*. The Conservancy successfully purchased this 383-acre preserve last fall and must now complete the fundraising to repay the acquisition loan from our revolving funds. Over a dozen rare plants (some of which are globally significant), a rare butterfly and a rare natural community all exist on this new preserve.

BRUSH CREEK - We also successfully acquired 123-acres along the lower end of this picturesque stream in Mercer County. Our new preserve encompasses the entire wooded gorge through which the stream flows just before it empties into the Bluestone River. Protection of the globally significant plant Canby's mountain-lover, a number of plants of state-wide significance, and a rare salamander, will be provided by this new preserve. As with Panther Knob, the Chapter must now raise the remaining funds necessary to repay the acquisition loan for this site.

SELDOM SEEN PRESERVE - This new preserve on the Hampshire - Morgan County line near Largent is actually an assemblage of three different projects. In order to protect a naturally occurring rare community-type for West Virginia, this project, which combines a fee interest in the area around the pond and a conservation easement on the surrounding 90-acre watershed, was donated to the Conservancy. The donors are Mr. and Mrs. Dayton Casto Jr., J.N. Casto, and J. Arbogast. We are greatly indebted to these friends for their generosity and concern. Incidentally, the preserve's unusual name comes from that of a nearby valley.

MONONGAHELA (McCLUNG) - As was mentioned in the Summer '84 issue of this newsletter, the Conservancy was successful in protecting this 920-acre wooded tract along the Cranberry River - the last private inholding on the Cranberry in the Monongahela National Forest. The tract was acquired by the Conservancy and immediately transferred to the Forest Service, which reimbursed us for our expense.

HARPERS FERRY (NASH) - This was another project which we conducted at the specific request of a government agency -- in this case, the WV Department of Natural Resources. Located adjacent to a newly established Nongame Area in the town of Harpers Ferry, this tiny parcel (.8 acre) was acquired by us and will eventually be resold to DNR. Its acquisition was considered critical by the state's Nongame Program for their long-range development plans for the site.

The following sites were protected during 1984 through our voluntary Registry Program. The owners will retain ownership of the property while agreeing to protect the areas in conjunction with the Conservancy:

MACK FARM - 30-acre Summers County site is home to an excellent population of the highly significant plant, box huckleberry.

OURS FARM - located in Grant County, this 15-acre site provides protection for the rare ecosystem known as a shale barren.

PURGITTSVILLE SHALE BARREN - a small (1-acre) but excellent example of another shale barren, located in Hampshire County.

BRUSHY FORK DWARF JUNIPER - this 3-acre Pendleton County site is the only known West Virginia location of this northern plant species.

PETERSBURG GAP - several plants considered rare in West Virginia grow above the rocky cliffs at this Grant County site.

PETERSBURG SANDSTONE GLADE - located close to the Petersburg Gap, this site represents an excellent example of this rare type of natural community.

some supportive news

Somewhat unfortunately, a very necessary and highly critical component of our annual operations concerns the amount of funds that we raise to finance the operation of our Chapter and Field Office as well as the acquisition of new preserves. Of course each of you donates to the Conservancy through your membership dues. But dues make up less than 20% of our income budget, and land projects are financed totally outside of any dues income.

That's why it's important that we receive special contributions throughout the year from corporations, foundations, and you, our members. Since this issue of the newsletter is an annual report of sorts, we'd like to take this opportunity to report on the following financial developments:

WV NATURAL AREAS CAMPAIGN - As was noted elsewhere in this newsletter, over \$127,000 in donations and pledges have been received thus far for this critical project. This is by far the most amount of money that we've ever raised in one year in West Virginia. With the help of each of you we can still reach our \$200,000 goal by mid-1985.

1984 ANNUAL APPEAL - nearly 200 of you have responded to our recent special appeal for the Field Office, and we're grateful for your help. For those of you who have not yet responded, we hope that you'll consider doing so. We're proud of the accomplishments that we made during the last year and would appreciate your endorsement of these efforts.

BENEDUM CHALLENGE GRANT - If any one development could be pinpointed as the reason for our drastic increase in project activity over the last two years, it would be the fact that financial breathing room was provided to the Field Office by the 3-year challenge grant provided to us in 1983 by the Claude Worthington Benedum Foundation. 1985 marks the last year for this grant. Fortunately the ground work has now been put in place to allow at least some financial security for the Field Office in the future.

TRADE LANDS - As you members in the Huntington area probably know, our warehouse trade lands project, acquired through donation in 1983, is in the process of being sold to the Kroger Company. In addition to this site, two other trade land properties have been donated to us in 1984. Two undeveloped building lots were given to us by Mr. and Mrs. W.G. Gannon Jr. The properties will be sold and the proceeds placed in our West Virginia Land Preservation Fund.

ACORNS - Last, but certainly not least, we'd like to take this annual opportunity to recognize our very special ACORN supporters. Each of these members contribute \$100 or more each year for the support of our Field Office. In addition to receiving the good feeling from knowing that they are providing special support for our office in Charleston, ACORN members receive occasional special reports on projects and activities. If you would like to join this elite membership category, contact the Field Office. A list of our ACORN supporters is provided on the next page.

our ACORN members

WEST VIRGINIA ACORN MEMBERS

Mr. & Mrs. George Aide - Lewisburg	Mrs. Herbert Jones - Charleston, WV
Dr. & Mrs. Duane Alexander - Ellicott City, MD	Dr. and Mrs. James Lanham - Stow, OH
Mr. & Mrs. Herald Bennett - Bruceton Mills	Mr. Don McCaskie - Elkins, WV
Briarcliff Garden Club - Charleston	Mr. and Mrs. Richard Myerly - Charleston, WV
Dr. & Mrs. Kyle Bush - Philippi	Mr. J. McMillen - Meadow Bridge, WV
Dr. & Mrs. Kenneth Carvell - Morgantown	Miss Julia Peterkin - Parkersburg, WV
Mr. & Mrs. Dayton Casto - Largent, WV	Mr. Edward Peterson - Morgantown, WV
Mr. Harry Casto - Charleston, WV	Ms. Kathryn Powers - Washington, DC
Dr. Marilyn Eckert - Morgantown, WV	Mrs. Turner Ratrie - Malden, WV
Mr. and Mrs. E.B. Fernsler - Davis, WV	Mr. Edward Schoyer - Pittsburgh, PA
Mrs. P.F. Fisher - South Charleston, WV	Mrs. Victor Shaw - Fairmont, WV
Mr. Gerald Fogg - Philippi, WV	Mr. and Mrs. Robert Snyder - Lanhamsville, WV
Mr. and Mrs. David Francis, Lewisburg, WV	Mr. & Mrs. Jay Stern - Parkersburg, WV
Mr. and Mrs. John Gill - Morgantown, WV	Ms. Ruth Strosnider - Blacksville, WV
Ms. Beverly Gutierrez - South Charleston, WV	Mr. & Mrs. Stephen Tanner - Morgantown, WV
Mrs. Peggy Hadley - Wilson, NC	Dr. Gary Tolly - Huntington, WV
Dr. and Mrs. James Hall - Morgantown, WV	Mr. Paul Wallace - Fairmont, WV
Mr. Gordon Hamrick - Dunbar, WV	Mr. and Mrs. Albert Whitaker - Wheeling, WV
Ms. Jessie Harris - Washington, DC	Mr. Henry Willard - Shepherdstown, WV
Mr. Karl Hinkins - Grafton, WV	Mrs. Elizabeth Zimmermann - Morgantown, WV
J.L. Hurst/R.C. Thompson - Fairmont, WV	

WEST VIRGINIA CORPORATE ACORNS

Capon Springs and Farm Inc.	Morris Exploration Company
The Charleston Gazette	Mountain River Tours, Inc.
The C&P Telephone Company	Resource Consultants and Developers
Columbia Gas Transmission Corporation	U.S. Steel
Consolidation Coal Corporation	Westvaco
The Courtland Company	Wildwater Unlimited, Inc.
Kanawha Valley Board of Realtors	

1985 chapter committees

At its December meeting in Charleston, the Chapter Board of Trustees appointed the following committees for 1985. If you would be interested in serving on any of these committees, please contact the Field Office:

Project Review Committee, Chairman, Kermit McKeever, Charleston
Newsletter, Editor, Max Smith, Pruntytown
Fundraising Development Committee, Chairman, Steve Thompson, S. Charleston
Membership Development Committee, Chairman, Virginia Baer, Morgantown
Stewardship Committee, Chairman, William Grafton, Beckley
Technical Advisory Board, Chairman, Robert Richardson, Carnifax Ferry
Awards Committee, Chairman, William Fisher, Grafton
Annual Meeting Committee, Chairman, Diana Hoke, Charleston
Nominating Committee, Chairman, Kermit McKeever, Charleston
Publicity Committee, Chairman, Dr. Kenneth Carvell, Morgantown
Operating Plan and Budget Committee, Chairman, Dr. James Hall, Morgantown
By-Laws Resolutions Committee, Chairman, Robert Snyder, Petersburg
Memorial Fund Committee, Chairman, Eleanor Bush, Philippi
Audit Committee, Chairman, Frank Pelurie, Charleston
History Committee, Chairman, Jane Maguire, St. Albans

NOTE: As many of you have probably heard, Jim Comstock has just launched a newspaper which he has named The New West Virginia Review. Mr. Comstock would welcome any articles from our members concerning the natural heritage of our state. If you're interested, write to Jim Comstock, The New West Virginia Review, Richwood, WV.

so who's keeping score?

BY Rodney Bartgis

All Nature Conservancy members join the Conservancy because they share an interest in seeing the best natural features of West Virginia protected. However, many have no idea how we pick the sites we work on. Frequently mention is made in Conservancy meetings and literature (like this newsletter) about a "natural diversity scorecard." There is an obvious need for the Conservancy to be able to figure out what parts (elements) of natural diversity need protection and our attention. The scorecard is an extremely useful tool that allows us to do just that. Indeed, we use such a scorecard in our West Virginia program.

Over the last ten years computerized data bases known as "Heritage Programs" that are either run by the Conservancy or a public agency, have compiled tons of information on rare species and communities. In West Virginia, the Department of Natural Resources' Wildlife/Heritage Data Base compiles and maintains this information. Information supplied by the West Virginia data base enables us to determine how rare a species is relative to another species. In other words, we are able to say with some degree of certainty that in the state Species X is more common than Species Y and Species Z is much rarer than either X or Y. So, Species Z would be a greater priority ("more highly ranked") than Y or Z for protection by the Conservancy.

By comparing data between heritage data bases, we can determine the relative rangewide (or global) rarity of a species. Therefore, Species X may be more common than Y in West Virginia, but Y may be more common rangewide than X. The Conservancy assigns each species a global rank based on its global rarity and a state rank based on its state rarity. The species that are globally quite rare (and therefore very "highly ranked") are our highest protection priorities, followed by those that are globally more common but rare in West Virginia. This system also tells us what species are common enough that we do not need to be overly concerned about them. We do the same type of ranking with communities on a state-rare basis; our information on communities is not yet refined enough to do "global" rankings for them.

The scorecard is a document that tells us what these species are, ranked in order from those of highest protection priority to the lowest. It also tells us where they are, and which of the different sites are the best (and worst) candidates for protection (based on biological and ecological concerns). The scorecard also tells us who the owners of each site are, what current protection is given to the site (from none to fully protected) and what type of protection we desire (none, registry, easement, lease, Conservancy preserve, other conservation agency preserve).

For our needs, it is the ultimate planning tool. At a glance we can tell what needs our attention and what our options are. While much work goes into developing and updating a scorecard, it is easily used. All of our Natural Areas Campaign sites were selected from the scorecard, so you can be assured we're protecting from the cream of the crop choices.

In West Virginia, we actually have four scorecards. Our plant scorecard is a fairly complete, state-of-the-art analysis and our vertebrate animal scorecard is close behind. Our natural community scorecard is up-and-running and providing exciting leads (like the marl wetlands of our Natural Areas Campaign). Our invertebrate animal scorecard is in its infancy, but already is showing itself to be a potential planning highlight for us in West Virginia. The scorecard is one more tool the Conservancy has developed for the most effective natural diversity conservation possible.

Chapter Chairperson...	Virginia Baer, Route 5, Box 57, Morgantown, WV 26505.....	291-0403
Past Chairperson.....	Robert Snyder, Route 1, Box 32, Lahmansville, WV 26731.....	749-7242
Vice Chairpersons.....	William Grafton, P.O. Box 1991, Beckley, WV 25802.....	253-2783
	Frank Pelurie, 250 Dutch Road, Clendenin, WV 25045.....	968-3293
	Doris Welch, 1370 Headlee Avenue, Morgantown, WV.....	599-1924
Secretary.....	Diana Hoke, Route 2, Box 334, Charleston, WV 25314.....	744-4800
Treasurer.....	Judy Dumke, Route 1, Box 125, Chesapeake, OH 45619.....	(614)894-6859
Board Members.....	W. James Arnold, 409 Grand Boulevard, Huntington, WV 25705.....	529-1446
at large	Kenneth Carvell, Route 7, Box 604, Morgantown, WV 26505.....	594-2970
	William Fisher, 853 Maple Avenue, Grafton, WV 26254.....	265-3897
	James Hall, 1060 Takoma Street, Morgantown, WV 26505.....	599-3708
	Richard Myerly, 1578 Nottingham Road, Charleston, WV 25314.....	744-0722
	Jean Neely, P.O. Box 1091, Shepherdstown, WV 25443.....	876-2410
	William Newcomb, 38 Chestnut Drive, Huntington, WV 25705.....	522-1172
	Robert Richardson, Route 2, Box 236, Summersville, WV 26657.....	872-5726
	Steve Thompson, 823 Whispering Way, South Charleston, WV 25303...	744-0915

Project Review Committee

Kermit McKeever, Chairman, 870 Alta Road
Charleston, WV 25314.....343-1140
Jim Arnold
Charlie Baer
Eleanor Bush
Bill Grafton
Steve Thompson

Newsletter

Max Smith, Editor, Rt. 2, Box 154
Grafton, WV 26534.....265-4237
Bill Fisher

Fundraising Development

Steve Thompson, Chairman (address above)
Judy Dumke
Diana Hoke
Richard Myerly
William Newcomb
Mary Helen Pelurie

Membership Development

Virginia Baer, Chairman (address above)
Frank Pelurie
Vim VanEck

Stewardship

William Grafton, Chairman (address above)
Kenneth Carvell
Bayard Green
Brian McDonald
all Preserve Stewarts

Technical Advisory Board

Robert Richardson, Chairman (address above)

Awards Committee

William Fisher, Chairman (address above)
Eleanor Bush
William Creasy

Annual Membership Meeting

Diana Hoke, Chairman (address above)
Jane Maguire
Mary Helen Pelurie
Jean Thompson

Nominating

Kermit McKeever, Chairman
Jean Neely
Robert Snyder

Publicity

Ken Carvell, Chairman (address above)

Operating Plan and Budget

James Hall, Chairman (address above)
Judy Dumke
Doris Welch

By-Laws Resolutions

Bob Snyder, Chairman (address above)
Eleanor Bush
Elizabeth Swiger

Memorial Funds

Virginia Baer, Chairman (address above)

Audit

Frank Pelurie, Chairman (address above)

History

Jane Maguire, Chairman, 1905 Kanawha
Terrace, St. Albans, WV 25177.....722-2368


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*      IN MEMORIAM  
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*      Death claimed two distinguished West Virginia men of science,  
* Robert L. Birch and Dr. Earl L. Core in the waning days of 1984. Both  
* men were retired West Virginia University Professors and both were Chapter  
* Members and ardent supporters of the West Virginia Nature Conservancy.  
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*  
*      Bob Birch came from his native Pennsylvania to West Virginia Univer-  
* sity in 1948 to teach courses in taxonomy and field biology and continued  
* his service until forced into retirement by ill health. He was curator of  
* the University Museum and Director of the Terra Alta Biological Station.  
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*  
*      A WVU spokesman described Dr. Core as "one of the giants in the  
* history of WVU and an outstanding teacher and scholar". In addition to  
* his accomplishments in Botany he was equally distinguished as a historian,  
* author and churchman. Dr. Core was a member of numerous scholarly and  
* service organizations and served one term as Mayor of Morgantown.  
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The next Board of Trustees meeting will be held at the home of Dr. and Mrs. James Welch at 1370 N. Headlee Avenue in Morgantown. (See map on Page 9). There will be a social hour which starts at 11:30 A.M. This will be a covered dish lunch. The business meeting is scheduled for 1:00 P. M.

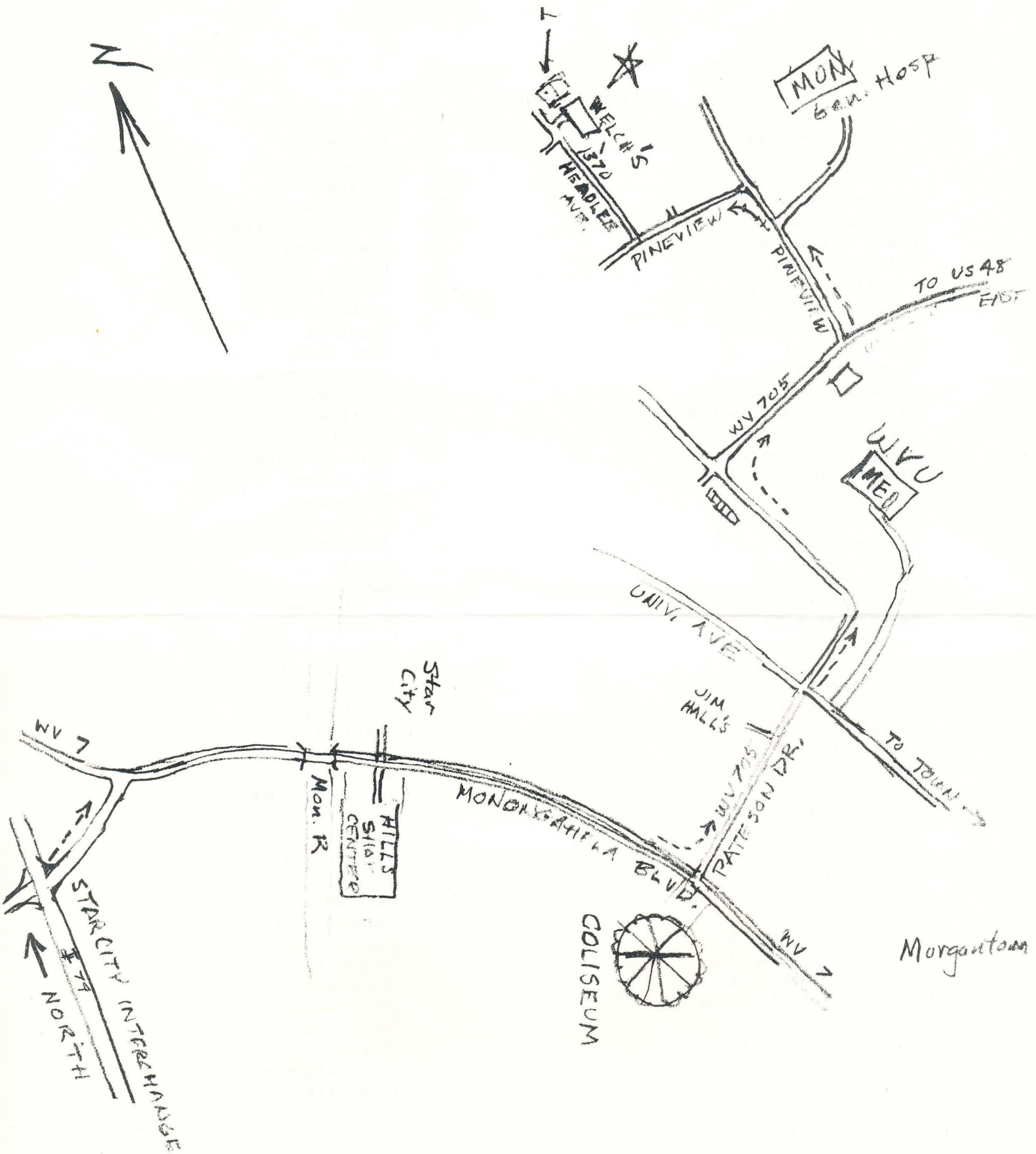
Norma Jean Venable has just published a very interesting book all about Ferns of West Virginia. Attractively designed and formatted, this 32 page publication describes 41 common and interesting ferns and fern allies found in West Virginia. Beautifully illustrated by Diane Stirrat this publication will be useful to anybody concerned with ferns. The price of \$3.50 includes postage. Send orders to Norma Jean Venable at 406 Knapp Hall, Morgantown, WV 26505-6031. Make Checks payable to West Virginia University.

ADDITIONS

Alfred Exterminating
Allen, John C.
Altizer, Mr. & Mrs. Chris
Ballard, D.
Ballowe, Mrs. J. O.
Barksdale, Mrs. Kathleen
Belden, Ms. Joanne
Cable, Ms. Diane
Cann, Carmine J. Jr.
Darnall, Mr. & Mrs. Tom
Davis, Ms. Candace O.
Fox, Thomas R.

Weston
Clarksburg
Barboursville
Paden City
Charleston
West Hamlin
Washington
Caldwell
Morgantown
Buckhannon
Salem
Millstone

(continued)



ADDITIONS (Continued)

Franke, Mrs. Paul
Isaack, Margaret M.
Jakobi, Steven R.
Kadzielawa, Dr. K.
Kendrick, John W.
Knee, Leonard B.
Knight, Kenneth B.
Langille, Ms. Gail
Louden, Harry C.
Luther, Ms. Linda
Macargle, Hal
Marshall, Peter
Marshall, Dr. Robert
Martin, Colonel John B.
Messenger, Woodrow V.
Miller, Ms. Georgia
Miller, Robert & Miriam
Muldoon, Ms. Grace
Mullins, Charles B.
Myers, Larry A.
Mykita, David J.
Nangeroni, Peter
Noel, Wm. P.
Parker, Paul E.
Paskewicz, Charles
Peary, Ms. Nancy
Peck, Tom
Prosser, Judith M.
Ratliff, Ray E. Jr.
Ratrie, Nina
Shaw, Wm., Frank & Christine
Six, Jennifer F.
Slosky, Leslie H.
Sonnenwald, Mrs. H. C.
Stahly, Dr. Thomas L.
Staley, Tom
Stonestreet, Elizabeth
Watson, Michael D.
Wilson, Mrs. Mary H.
Evergreen Garden Club
Skyview Garden Club
Stealey Civic & Garden Club
Teays Valley Garden Club
Vienna Garden Club
Whispering Oaks Garden Club
Woodland Oaks Garden Club

Charleston
Morgantown
Morgantown
Huntington
Berkeley Springs
Charleston
Elkins
Bethany
Fairmont
Crawford
Five Forks
Shepherdstown
Elk View
Charleston
St. Albans
Kearneysville
Morgantown
Follansbee
Charleston
Morgantown
Athens
Elkins
Charleston
Fairmont
Ripley
Summersville
Moorefield
Charleston
Charleston
Charleston
Grafton
Point Pleasant
Scott Depot
Wheeling
Summersville
Beaver
Harrisville
Harpers Ferry
Morgantown
Fairmont
Charleston
Clarksburg
Hurricane
Vienna
S. Charleston
Lochgelly

THE NATURE CONSERVANCY is a national, non-profit land conservation organization committed to the preservation of natural diversity by protecting lands containing the best components of our natural world. Funds for the Conservancy's efforts come from membership dues, individual contributions, foundation grants, corporate gifts, and other private sources.

The Conservancy's WEST VIRGINIA CHAPTER was formed in 1963 concurrently with the acquisition of 260 acres in the heart of Cranesville Swamp in Preston County. Since then, nearly 30,000 acres in West Virginia have received protection through the Conservancy's efforts. The Chapter has members in all fifty-five counties in West Virginia.

THE NATURE CONSERVANCY is actively involved in seeking protection for additional high quality sites throughout the state. The Conservancy also sponsors a series of state-wide field trips each year. These events take many different forms: nature studies, scenic hikes, and special activities. All trips are open to members and non-members alike.

Become a member of *THE NATURE CONSERVANCY* and cast your vote for the protection of our outstanding natural bounty. As a member of the Conservancy, you will enjoy many benefits, including membership in the Conservancy's WEST VIRGINIA CHAPTER, bi-monthly issues of *The Nature Conservancy News*, *The West Virginia Chapter Newsletter*, and invitations to exciting field trips and other activities. Membership is open to all.

HELP US PROTECT OUR NATURAL HERITAGE

() Please enroll me as a Member of The Nature Conservancy

() Please send me additional information about The Nature Conservancy

Membership Categories

- () \$1000 Life
- () \$1000 Corporate
- () \$100 Acorn
- () \$50 Supporting
- () \$25 Contributing
- () \$15 Family
- () \$10 Subscriber

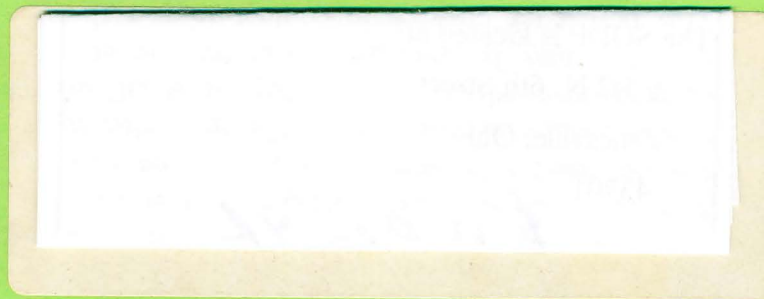
NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

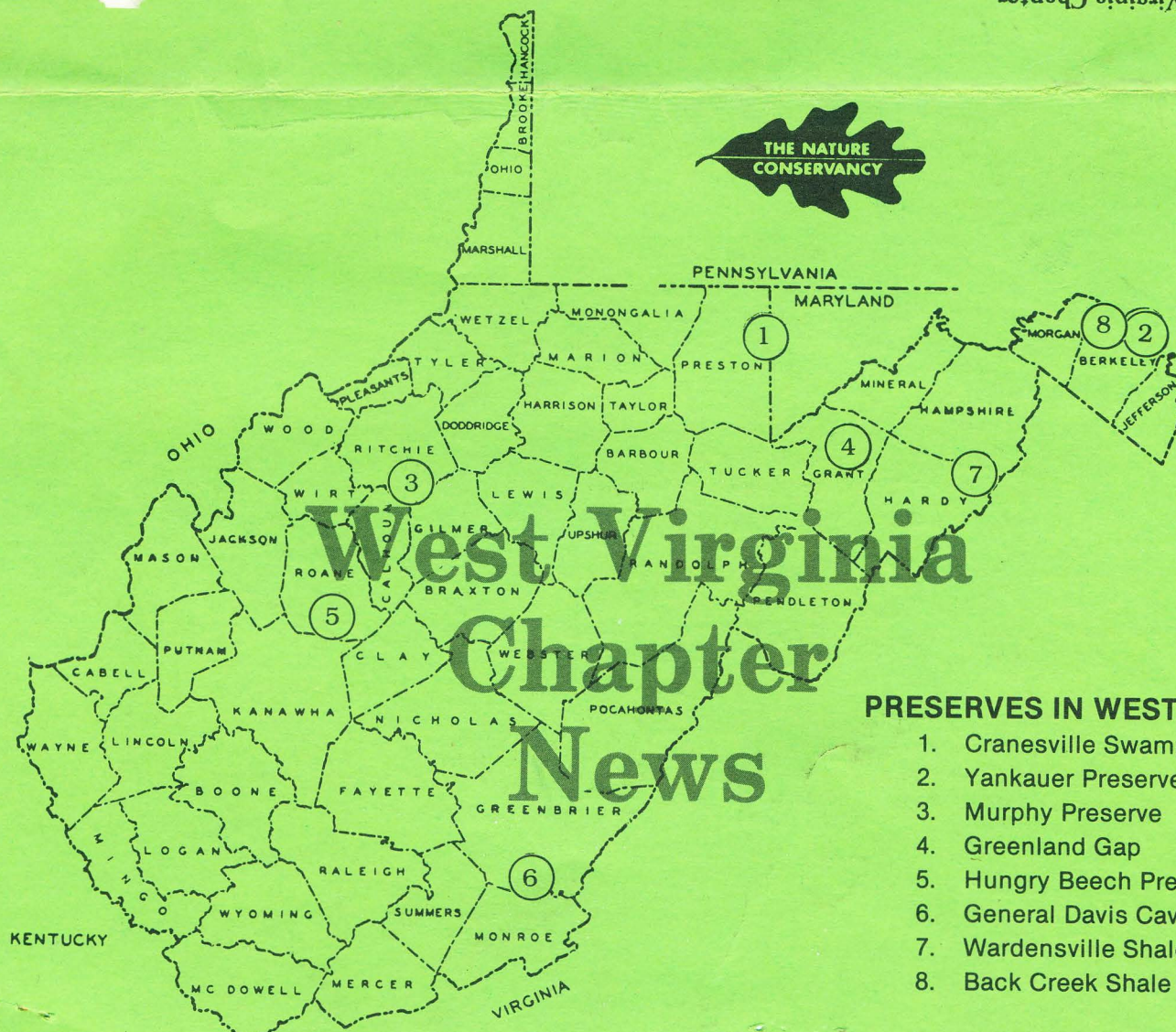
TOWN _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

Please mail your tax deductible payment to:

The Nature Conservancy, West Virginia Field Office, 1100 Quarrier Street, Room 215, Charleston,
West Virginia 25301



West Virginia Chapter

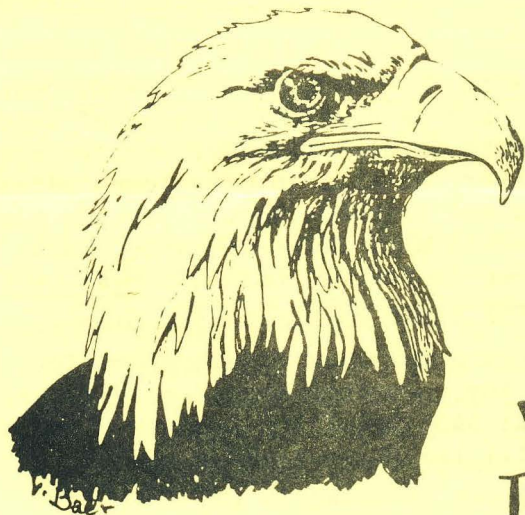


PRESERVES IN WEST VIRGINIA

1. Cranesville Swamp
2. Yankauer Preserve
3. Murphy Preserve
4. Greenland Gap
5. Hungry Beech Preserve
6. General Davis Cave
7. Wardensville Shale Barren
8. Back Creek Shale Barren

The Nature Conservancy

is a national conservation organization committed to the preservation of natural diversity by protecting lands containing the best examples of all components of our natural world.



1985

Field Trips

sponsored by the

West Virginia Chapter
of
The Nature Conservancy

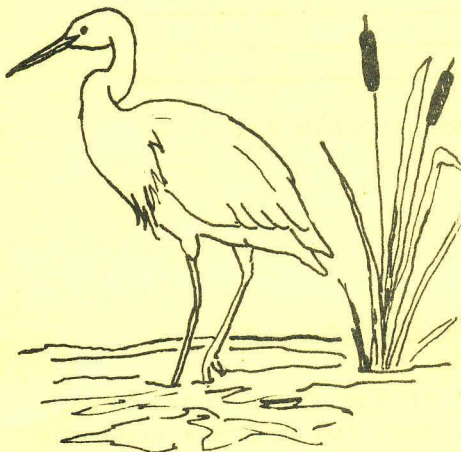
Traveling Nature's Course

TRAVELING NATURE'S COURSE-1985

A Schedule of Field Trips Sponsored by the West Virginia Chapter of THE NATURE CONSERVANCY

Everyone Invited.

Bring a Friend!



APRIL 20. BIRDING AND BOTANIZING AT POND RUN MARSH. This large and interesting wetland is located totally within the city limits of Parkersburg. Reportedly the marsh is an excellent and convenient place to observe both birds and plants. DETAILS: Meet at 9:00 a.m. at the rear of the Big Bear Shopping Center parking lot adjacent to the Memorial Bridge (just south of Grand Central Mall). Bring boots and field glasses.

MAY 4-5. CANOEING THE UPPER GREENBRIER RIVER. Without question one of the most scenic float trips in the state. On Saturday we plan to canoe the 15 miles from Durbin to Cass. On Sunday a shorter trip from Cass to Clover Lick is planned. Participants may join us for either or both days. Participants are responsible for their own canoes and for Saturday night accommodations (DNR cabins at Cass, camping at Seneca State Forest, local motels, etc.) Trip is designed for those with at least some prior canoeing experience. DETAILS: Saturday-meet at 9:30 a.m. at the old train station on U.S.Rt. 250 in Durbin. Sunday-meet at 9:30 a.m. at the large parking lot at Cass. NOTE: Due to water levels, a last minute change in the section of the Greenbrier that we'll canoe is possible. It is recommended that participants check in with the Field Office on May 1 or 2.

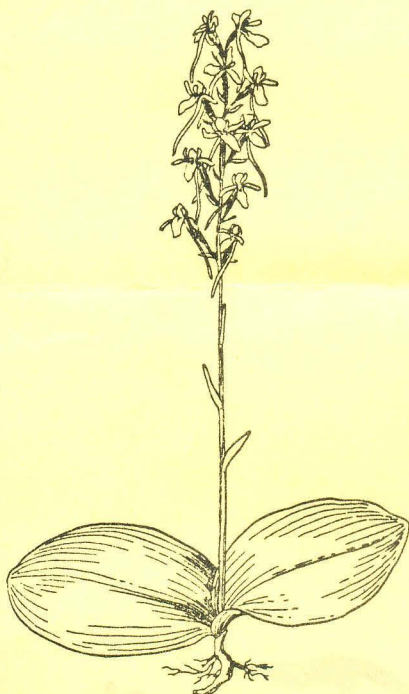


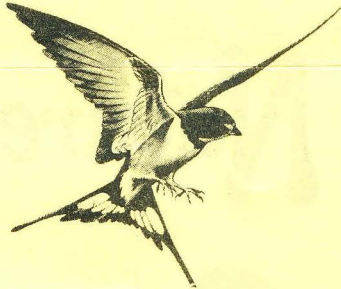
JUNE 1. IN SEARCH OF THE GUYANDOTTE BEAUTY. The Guyandotte Beauty is one of West Virginia's most strikingly beautiful wildflowers. It is also one of the species targeted for protection by our Natural Areas Campaign. This trip will visit a site in rural Mingo County which is considered the largest known population of this flower in the world. DETAILS: Meet at 10:00 a.m. at the intersection of U.S. Rts. 119 and 52 between the towns of Nolan and Naugatuck. Trip will involve a short, but easy hike. Participants should bring bag lunch.

JULY 7. BARBOUR COUNTY ORCHID TOUR. Eleanor Bush will lead this motor trip to one of the Conservancy's Registry sites, a farm field which is home to numerous species of orchids. DETAILS: Meet at 1:30 p.m. at the small park adjacent to the covered bridge in Philippi.

JULY 20. A VISIT TO SHANNONDALE SPRINGS. TNC's Rodney Bartgis considers this 600-acre wooded tract to be one of the very best wildlife observation areas in the state. In addition to observing the tract's natural attributes, we hope to be able to provide a cultural and historical presentation on the site. We're expecting a large crowd to join us for this visit to the last large undeveloped tract on the Shenandoah River--a tract which The Conservancy purchased in 1983 for the Department of Natural Resources. DETAILS: Meet at 10:00 a.m. at the east side of the St. Rt. 9 bridge across the Shenandoah River approximately 4 miles east of Charles Town.

AUGUST 24. A VISIT TO A CEDAR GLADE. One of the most significant botanical discoveries in West Virginia in recent years was Rodney Bartgis' "find" of a cedar glade in Grant County. Join us for a visit to this prairie-like natural community which is home to over a dozen rare plant species. DETAILS: Meet at 10:30 a.m. at the Dairy Queen parking lot in downtown Petersburg.





SEPTEMBER 28. BIG TREES AND BIG WATER ALONG THE GAULEY RIVER. Just down the hill from Carnifex Ferry Park is a majestic stand of huge hemlock trees. Participants will hike through this spectacular forest on their way down to the Gauley River. We plan to have lunch adjacent to Pillow Rock rapid where rafters and kayakers should provide plenty of entertainment while playing in this huge Class VI rapid. NOTE: The hike back up the trail is very steep in places. DETAILS: Meet at the Museum parking lot in Carnifex Ferry State Park at 10:00 a.m.

***NOTE: Because of the early deadline for this flyer, a complete list of trip leaders is not available. Any questions should be directed to the TNC Field Office in Charleston: 345-4350 (1100 Quarrier Street, Room 215, Charleston, WV 25301). All trips are free of charge and are open to the public!

The Nature Conservancy is concerned about the flowers and birds, the mammals and trees and the lands on which they depend. Through many different techniques we protect ecologically significant natural areas. In West Virginia we own and manage six diverse preserves. In addition, through twenty years of volunteer activity, and cooperative management and assist programs, nearly 30,000 acres have been protected.

WHAT WE HAVE SAVED AND WHAT WE WILL SAVE IN THE NEXT FEW YEARS WILL BE ALL THAT WILL REMAIN TO BE PASSED ON TO FUTURE GENERATIONS. THERE WILL NEVER BE ANOTHER CHANCE.

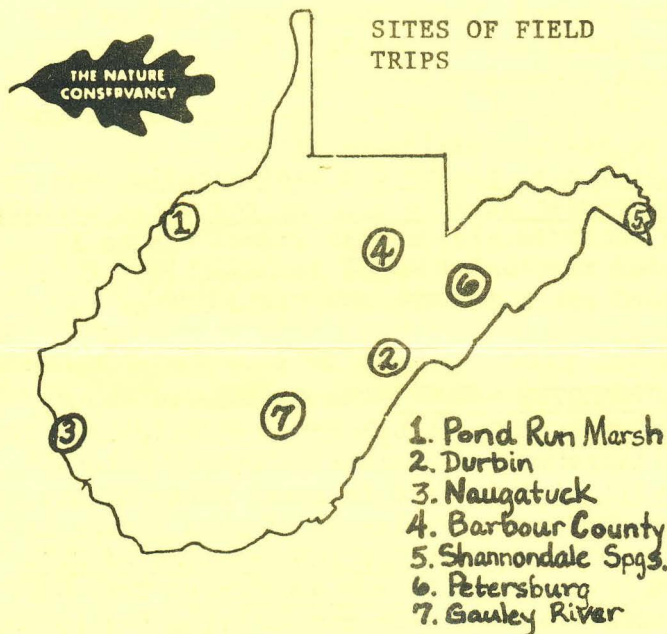
WON'T YOU JOIN US?

Subscribing membership \$10 _____
Family membership \$15 _____

Name _____
Address _____

Your contribution is tax deductible. Please make check payable to:

THE NATURE CONSERVANCY
West Virginia Field Office
1100 Quarrier Street, Room 215
Charleston, West Virginia 25301



TRAVELING NATURE'S COURSE - 1985

The West Virginia Chapter of The Nature Conservancy sponsors field trips each year for members and non-members alike. The trips are planned within certain guidelines:

- to enjoy activities and companionship in natural settings,
- to investigate little-known areas
- to focus on a specific species or group,
- to monitor areas in which TNC has interest,
- to show-case the preserves.

The Field Trip Committee welcomes your suggestions for places and leaders for future trips. Please send requests and suggestions to: Frank Pelurie, The Nature Conservancy, 1100 Quarrier St.-Room 215, Charleston, WV or call (304) 345-4350.

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